

Message Text

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63 L

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ARA-16 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /129 W

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R 061610Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6639

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 3277

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW, US

SUBJECT: CHINESE PRESS REPRESENTATION, FRANCE

REF: STATE 023516

1. BOTH CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY (CNA) AND NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY (NCNA) HAVE REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS. FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN "ACCREDITATION" TO REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH AGENCIES SINCE THE INDIVIDUALS MEET THE FRENCH REQUIREMENTS FOR JOURNALISTS, I.E., THAT THEY ARE ACTIVELY WORKING FOR THE ACCOUNT OF ESTABLISHED NEWS ORGANIZATIONS. NCNA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO GO F OFFICIAL PRESS FUNCTIONS; CNA REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOT.

2. CURRENT CNA REPRESENTATIVE BECAME MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION (FPA), PRESUMABLY AUTOMATICALLY SUCCEEDING HIS PREDECESSOR. FPA IS
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SMALLEST AND LEAST PRESTIGIOUS OF THREE MAJOR PRESS

GROUPS IN PARIS, BUT THE ONLY ORGANIZATION FOR WHICH CNA OR NCNA WOULD BE ELIGIBLE. SINCE CNA REPRESENTATIVE BELONGED, NCNA REPRESENTATIVES HAVE REFUSED TO JOIN THE ASSOCIATION.

3. THE PRC HAS OBJECTED TO AND FORMALLY PROTESTED TO THE GOF THE PRESENCE OF THE CNA REPRESENTATIVE, HIS ACCREDITATION AS A JOURNALIST, AND HIS MEMBERSHIP IN THE FPA. GOF HAS DEFENDED ACCREDITATION AS MERELY RECOGNIZING THAT HE IS INDEED A JOURNALIST, AND ARGUED IT IS UNABLE TO RULE ON THE MEMBERSHIP OF A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION SUCH AS THE FPA. THE PRC IS STILL NOT CONTENT. THE FRENCH NOTE THAT THE ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION TO THE PRC'S SATISFACTION WOULD BE TO DENY A VISA TO THE CNA REPRESENTATIVE'S SUCCESSOR, AN ACTION WHICH THE GOF WOULD CONSIDER WHEN THE CURRENT CNA REPRESENTATIVE MAY BE REPLACED. THE CNA HAS NOT PROTESTED THE GOF'S INVITING NCNA TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS BUT NOT CNA.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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